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J. K. Fasick
Director
International Division
United States General Accounting Office

Dear Mr. Fasick:

I am writing in response to your letter of 28 November 1979 relating to your office's study regarding foreign language needs in all Federal agencies.

The Central Intelligence Agency realizes full well the importance of the area you are studying, and the Agency has during the last year done much to revitalize and expand its Language Incentive Program in an attempt to better meet the need for language-qualified personnel. Notwithstanding this shared concern, however, I must ask that the Central Intelligence Agency be excused from submitting the written questionnaire which accompanied your letter.

Fully half of our language requirements involve positions overseas and if we were to submit the completed questionnaire it would reveal information concerning the deployment of our personnel overseas, geographical areas of particular interest, languages where the Agency may be vulnerable, and other such data useful to our adversaries in their continuing counter-intelligence activities. By the same token, were we to submit to you data which avoided reporting such information, such

data would be so incomplete and subject to misinterpretation that it would be of little use for your purposes.

I would like to suggest, as an alternative to the submission of the questionnaire, that your representatives meet with officials of our Language School to receive a briefing on our program. This approach has been mutually successful in previous studies conducted by your office, and we would be pleased to proceed on this basis if agreeable to you. I suggest your representatives contact Chief, Language School, Office of Training, whose telephone number is

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Sincerely,

Frank C. Carlucci